



UTAH OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MARK SHURTLEFF

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

SEPTEMBER 2006

“GIRL TALK” GUIDE LAUNCHED TO COMBAT UNDERAGE DRINKING



AG Mark Shurtleff talks to girls from Murray High about the Girl Talk guide for moms and daughters

Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff, Utah DABC, and The Century Council recently partnered to launch *Girl Talk: Choices and Consequences of Underage Drinking*, a guide to help moms talk to their daughters about the dangers of underage drinking. Also

attending the event were members of the Murray High Girls Soccer team.

The guide is based on a Century Council survey that showed that mothers significantly underestimate their daughter's

experience with alcohol. "This data shows a misperception among moms about the seriousness of problems associated with alcohol consumption by their teenage daughters," said Attorney General Shurtleff. "Our goal is to encourage moms to have conversations with their teenage daughters about the negative effects and dangers of underage drinking."

Girl Talk was developed with the Society for Women's Health Research and the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association, and is part of a comprehensive program tailored specifically for mothers and daughters including a website, booklets and a blog for moms and daughters to discuss their experiences and connect with others on this issue. For more information see: www.girlsanddrinking.org.

UTAH AG'S IRIS WEBSITE IS BIGGEST CRIMEFIGHTER

"ID theft is the fastest growing crime in the nation and its effects are personally destructive – that's why we've chosen to develop this user friendly and highly effective way to report the crime."

— Mark Shurtleff

The Utah Attorney General's Identity Theft Reporting System (IRIS) is "the first site of its kind" and "a model for other states," said the Conference of Western Attorneys General, whose members chose the site for the "Utah Biggest Crimefighter" Award. IRIS is an official law enforcement web site from which

all ID theft claims are reported to appropriate law enforcement agencies.

"ID theft is the fastest growing crime in the nation and its effects are personally destructive – that's why we've chosen to develop this easy and highly effective way

to report the crime," said Attorney General Mark Shurtleff. "IRIS is the centerpiece of our website, and an important tool to fight the pernicious crime of stealing someone's identity."

IRIS was developed by the Utah AG's Office with the cooperation of Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs' of Utah, Utah Peace Officers Association, Utah Department of Public Safety, Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center, and Department of Technology Services. CWAG likes the site because it "lets consumers report [ID] theft, learn about the status of cases, become educated about the crime and its effects, check up on legislation and read about the latest scams and alerts."



16 ROADS AND TEN YEARS LATER — R.S. 2477 SUIT DISMISSED



The Utah Attorney General's office was instrumental in achieving the dismissal of a ten year old suit brought by the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) and other groups against Kane, Garfield and San Juan Counties. The counties asserted that sixteen roads located in the three counties were jointly owned under a federal statute known as R.S. 2477. The Utah Attorney General's office, representing two counties, led out in this proceeding, filing and arguing the initial motion to dismiss.

In the course of this legal saga, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals delivered what has widely been called a landmark decision in public land law. The decision effectually reversed a lower-court decision that was adverse to the counties and ruled that binding determinations by BLM on the validity of R.S. 2477 roads were illegal. The court also ruled that state law rather than federal law or policy supplied the rules for decision on the validity of R.S. 2477 and federal withdrawals, such as coal withdrawals, did not preclude the establishment of R.S. 2477 roads.

The case also provides a framework for settling conflicts regarding construction work on the roads. The AG's office is pleased with these hard-earned results.

UTAH OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MARK SHURTLEFF

Utah State Capitol Complex
East Office Bldg, Suite 320
SLC UT 84114-2320

ATTORNEYGENERAL.UTAH.GOV

**For information
on legislation, cases, or other
matters being handled by our
office, please contact:**

Wade Farraway
801 325-3362
wfarraway@utah.gov

Catherine Higgins
801 538-1753
chiggins@utah.gov

ROBERT STEED WINS PSN PROSECUTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD



Robert Steed

Based on overwhelming support from his colleagues, Assistant Utah Attorney General Robert Steed has received the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Prosecutor of the Year Award. Roberts's tremendous litigation experience, polished advocacy skills, and positive attitude has proven to be a valuable asset to PSN. His

prosecutions have netted **59** federal firearm indictments of armed drug dealers, gang members, a cop shooter and armed career criminals.

"I am grateful for the recognition I received from my peers at Project Safe Neighborhoods," said Steed. "More importantly, I am proud to have served as a partner in the success of PSN. "The success we achieved was the result of a team effort by our partners in federal, state, county and city law enforcement."

Robert has also participated in the Utah Adult Probation & Parole

Offender Notification program where he speaks directly with paroled convicted felons to inform them of firearms restrictions and the consequences if found with a firearm. He has also readily volunteered to cover his colleagues' court appearances, as well as assist them with complicated trial work.

"The end result was that we made our neighborhoods safer by enforcing existing gun laws and placing offenders in federal prison to serve their sentences without parole," said Steed. "The PSN program has also saved the state of Utah millions of dollars in incarceration and court costs and has proven that partnerships between different law enforcement agencies and the state and federal government can work together very effectively."



***For more about Project Safe
Neighborhoods:***

www.psn.gov